

MAY 24 1965

*Pres Bigorre, Jean
Pres Castellane, Pierre*

FRANCE SMASHES SECRET ARMY TERRORIST RING

By United Press International

PARIS.

A terrorist ring led by two high police officials with Secret Army Organization (OAS) connections was broken up in western France two days before President Charles de Gaulle toured there, French authorities announced yesterday.

Twelve persons were arrested, including the secret police chief for western France, Jean Bigorre, 46, and his deputy, Pierre Castellane, 52. Police said the ring had not planned to assassinate Gen. de Gaulle, who has survived four attempts on his life.

In a speech at La Fleche, winding up his five-day tour, Gen. de Gaulle again urged an end to the "two hegemonies"—American and Soviet rivalry for domination over the world—which he said brought on the conflicts in Viet Nam and the Dominican Republic.

Gen. de Gaulle said France is the only nation capable of helping bring about a new international balance of power based on total independence of all peoples.

The division of the world between the two "colossi" after World War II was a "system which does not insure international peace," he said.

"One can see this day after day at this moment, on our former Indochina and in the Caribbean and tomorrow God knows where."

He urged Frenchmen to back his government and prevent a return to the past political instability. His regime would "soon" get a public vote of confidence, he said, in a reference to next December's presidential elections. But he did not say whether he would run for a new seven-year term.

Throughout the trip—the 22d since he became President in January, 1959—Gen. de Gaulle received a warm welcome. Trade unions and farming associations, dissatisfied with government price policies, failed in their effort to effect a boycott of the trip.

Police said the plotters arrested last week were in contact with jailed OAS members and with two fugitive OAS leaders who have been sentenced to death for the attempted overthrow of the government.

The OAS, formed by Europeans in Algeria who opposed Gen. de Gaulle's plans to grant independence, waged a terror campaign and organized several anti-de Gaulle plots. With its leaders rounded up or in exile, it has lost most of its power.

Pistols and propaganda materials were seized in the

break-up of the ring. Police said more arrests were likely. The plotters were charged with subversive activity.

Police said the network was discovered during a routine check of political agitators before the President's tour.